

REMARKS

Applicant has canceled pending claims 1 - 22 without prejudice, and has added new claims 33 - 60. Examination on new claims 33 - 60 is solicited. An additional typographical error in a heading in the application is noted, and entry of an amendment relating thereto is requested.

Applicant notes that the previous objection regarding the continuation data, and the obviousness type double patenting rejection, have been withdrawn.

Because of the nature of the new claims, a detailed response to the prior Office Action (Paper 10) is not feasible. Applicant notes that the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, claim rejections are not applicable to the new claims. See, e.g., Office Action at page 5, second full paragraph. With respect to prior rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, it is asserted that the new claims provide all essential steps for the process as claimed.

Authorization is given to charge payment of any additional fees required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 13-4213. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for accounting purposes. Filed herewith is a Petition for Extension of Time to February 22, 2002, with the appropriate fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached paper is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

In the specification:

On page 2, lines 1 and 2, delete the headings and insert in lieu thereof the following:

-BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION-

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1 through 22 and add the following new claims 33 to 60:

—33. A method of inducing regeneration and repair of nerve axon myelin coatings in a mammal with demyelination comprising:

systemically administering sufficient quantities of thrombopoietin to the mammal to induce endogenous production of platelet-derived growth factor in the mammal; and

systemically administering sufficient quantities of a thyroid regulatory agent to regulate cell division and oligodendroglia production.

34. The method of claim 33 wherein the step of systemically administering the thrombopoietin comprises a method selected from the group consisting of oral administration, intravenous injection, intramuscular injection and intrathecal injection.

35. The method of claim 33 wherein the thyroid regulatory agent comprises thyroid hormone.

36. The method of claim 35 wherein the step of administering the thyroid hormone comprises a method selected from the group consisting of oral administration, intravenous injection, intramuscular injection and intrathecal injection.

37. The method of claim 35 wherein the thyroid hormone comprises thyroid hormone extract.

38. The method of claim 35 wherein the thyroid hormone comprises synthetic thyroid hormone.

39. The method of claim 33 wherein the thyroid regulatory agent comprises thyrotropin.

48. The method of claim 47 wherein the step of administering the thyroid hormone comprises a method selected from the group consisting of oral administration, intravenous injection, intramuscular injection and intrathecal injection.

49. The method of claim 47 wherein the thyroid hormone comprises thyroid hormone extract.

50. The method of claim 47 wherein the thyroid hormone comprises synthetic thyroid hormone.

51. The method of claim 45 wherein the thyroid regulatory agent comprises thyrotropin.

52. The method of claim 51 wherein the step of administering the thyrotropin comprises a method selected from the group consisting of oral administration, intravenous injection, intramuscular injection and intrathecal injection.

53. The method of claim 45 wherein the thrombopoietin is selected from the group consisting of a thrombopoietin isolated from a mammal, a thrombopoietin made by recombinant means, and a thrombopoietin made by synthetic means.

54. The method of claim 45 wherein the quantity of thrombopoietin administered is from 1.0 to 100 µg/kg body weight per day.

55. The method of claim 45 wherein the thyroid regulatory agent is co-administered to the mammal with the thrombopoietin.

56. The method of claim 45 wherein the thyroid regulatory agent is initially administered to the mammal at least ten days subsequent to initial administration of the thrombopoietin.

57. A method of inducing increased platelet production with secondary increased endogenous production of platelet-derived growth factor in a mammal, the platelet-derived growth factor serving as a therapeutic agent to stimulate regeneration or repair of nerve axon myelin coatings in a mammal with damaged neurons, the method comprising systemically administering sufficient quantities of thrombopoietin to the mammal to increase platelet production, whereby endogenous production of platelet-derived growth factor is increased, thereby causing regeneration or repair of nerve axon myelin coatings.

58. The method of claim 57 wherein the step of systemically administering the thrombopoietin comprises a method selected from the group consisting of oral administration, intravenous injection, intramuscular injection and intrathecal injection.

59. The method of claim 57 wherein the thrombopoietin is selected from the group consisting of a thrombopoietin isolated from a mammal, a thrombopoietin made by recombinant means, and a thrombopoietin made by synthetic means.

60. The method of claim 57 wherein the quantity of thrombopoietin administered is from 1.0 to 100 µg/kg body weight per day.--